Amendments to the Claim:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A method ~~Method~~ for the treatment or ~~prevention~~ prophylaxis of a non-ischemic condition characterized by inflammation of the lung or airways ~~in one or more organ(s) or tissue(s)~~, the method comprising administering ~~of an~~ a therapeutically or prophylactically effective ~~dosage~~ amount of ~~α-MSH and/or of an α-MSH equivalent and/or a dosage~~ of an erythropoietin (EPO) ~~and/or an EPO equivalent~~ to the individual in need thereof.

2 (currently amended). Method according to claim 1 wherein the method is prophylactic ~~dosage of α-MSH and/or of an α-MSH equivalent and/or EPO and/or an EPO equivalent is administered prophylactically for preventing the establishment or progress of the condition, or of any symptom of the condition~~.

3 (currently amended; withdrawn). Method for treatment or ~~prevention~~ prophylaxis of an inflammatory condition in one or more organ(s) or tissue(s), the method comprising administering of ~~an~~ a therapeutically or prophylactically effective ~~dosage~~ amount of ~~α-MSH and/or of an α-MSH equivalent and/or a dosage of~~ EPO ~~and/or an EPO equivalent~~ to the individual in need thereof.

4 (currently amended; withdrawn). Method according to claim 3 wherein the method is prophylactic ~~dosage of α-MSH and/or of an α-MSH equivalent and/or EPO and/or an EPO equivalent is administered prophylactically for preventing the establishment or progress of the condition, or of any symptom of the condition~~.

5 (currently amended). Method according to claim 1 wherein the effective amount of ~~dosage of α-MSH and/or of an α-MSH equivalent and EPO and/or an~~ EPO ~~equivalent~~ is administered in

a plurality of separate dosings ~~as a single dosage, regular or continued administration, or as a sequential administration~~.

6 (currently amended; withdrawn). Method according to claim 1 wherein the condition is caused by an infection.

7 (withdrawn). Method according to claim 1 wherein the condition is caused by a cancer or a by premalignant disorder.

8-11 (cancelled).

12 (currently amended; withdrawn). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a unit dosage of EPO ~~and/or EPO equivalent~~ and a unit dosage of α-MSH ~~and/or of an α-MSH equivalent~~ together with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.

13 (currently amended; withdrawn). Method according to claim 3 wherein the ~~dosage of α-MSH and/or~~ effective amount of ~~an α-MSH equivalent and~~ EPO ~~and/or an EPO equivalent~~ is administered in a plurality of separate dosings ~~as a single dosage, regular or continued administration, or as a sequential administration~~.

14 (withdrawn). Method according to claim 3 wherein condition is caused by an infection.

15 (withdrawn). Method according to claim 3 wherein the condition is caused by a cancer or by a premalignant disorder.

16 (currently amended; withdrawn). Method according to claim 3 which further comprises administration of an ~~wherein the~~ α-MSH equivalent ~~is a substance acting~~ which acts on the α-MSH receptor and/or on the melanocortin receptor.

17 (currently amended; withdrawn). Method according to claim 3 wherein the treatment or ~~prevention~~ prophylaxis further comprises administration of ~~a dosage unit of EPO and/or an EPO equivalent~~ an anti-inflammatory amount of α-MSH.

18 (currently amended; withdrawn). Method according to claim 3 wherein ~~a combination of~~ (1) α-MSH and/or an α-MSH equivalent ~~with~~ and (2) EPO ~~and/or an EPO equivalent is~~ are

administered simultaneously.

19 (cancelled).

20 (currently amended). The method of claim ~~19~~ 1 where said condition is exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

21-22 (cancelled)

23 (previously presented). The method of claim 1 in which the condition is caused by a chemical trauma, or a physical obstruction, trauma or injury.

24 (withdrawn). The method of claim 1 in which the condition is caused by an allergic reaction.

25 (new). The method of claim 1 where the condition is asthma.

26 (new). The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of α-MSH.

27 (new). The method of claim 26 wherein the EPO and α-MSH are administered simultaneously.

28 (new). The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising the sequence Lys-Pro-Val, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity.

29 (new). The method of claim 28 wherein the peptide comprises the sequence Gly-Lys-Pro-Val (amino acids 10-13 of SEQ ID NO:1).

30 (new). The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising the sequence His-Phe-Arg, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity.

31 (new). The method of claim 1, further comprising

administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which binds to an alpha-MSH receptor, and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity, and which is (a) a peptide comprising at least a four amino acid fragment of alpha-MSH, or (b) a peptide which differs from the peptide of (a) solely by (i) replacement of Phe with homoPhe or a halogenated Phe, and/or (ii) replacement of one or more L-amino acids with the corresponding D-amino acids.

32 (new). The method of claim 31 where the four amino acid fragment is Glu-His-Phe-Arg.

33 (new). The method of claim 31 where the four amino acid fragment is His-Phe-Arg-Trp.

34 (new). The method of claim 32 where said peptide comprises the sequence His-Xaa-Arg, where His, Xaa and Arg may each be L or D amino acids and Xaa is Phe, homoPhe, or halogenated Phe.

35 (new). The method of claim 33 in which the halogenated Phe is P-fluoro Phe.

36 (new). The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising the sequence Lys-Pro-Val, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity,

which is a peptide fragment, at least three amino acids long, of α-MSH, and comprises the sequence Lys-Pro-Val.

37 (new). The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising the sequence Lys-Pro-Val, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity

which is a peptide consisting of the sequence A1-B2-C3-D4,

wherein

A1 is αFmLys or His,

B2 is Arg, D-Thr or pCl-f,

C3 is Arg, L-Cha or D-Ile, and

D4 is D-Nal or D-Arg.

38 (new). The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising the sequence Lys-Pro-Val, which substance binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity

which is a peptide consisting of the sequence

R1-W-X-Y-Z-R2, wherein

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of Ac-Gly-, Ac-Met-Glu, Ac-Nle-Glu-, and Ac-Tyr-Glu-;

W is selected from the group consisting of -His- and -D-His-;

X is selected from the group consisting of -Phe-, -D-Phe-, -Tyr-, -D-Tyr-, -(pNO_2)D-Phe^7-;

Y is selected from the group consisting of -Arg- and -D-Arg-;

Z is selected from the group consisting of -Trp- and -D-Trp-; and

R2 is selected from the group consisting of -NH_2;

-Gly-NH_2; and -Gly-Lys-NH_2.

39 (new). The method of claim 1 which is a method of treatment.

40 (new). The method of claim 39 which further comprises administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of alpha-MSH.

41 (new). The method of claim 39, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH

equivalent which is a peptide comprising the sequence Lys-Pro-Val, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity.

42 (new). The method of claim 39, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising the sequence His-Phe-Arg, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity.

43 (new). The method of claim 39, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which binds to an alpha-MSH receptor, and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity, and which is (a) a peptide comprising at least a four amino acid fragment of alpha-MSH, or (b) a peptide which differs from the peptide of (a) solely by (i) replacement of Phe with homoPhe or a halogenated Phe, and/or (ii) replacement of one or more L-amino acids with the corresponding D-amino acids.